ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
ACTION AGENDA

Tuesday, July 13, 2010
2:30 P.M.
3rd Floor Conference Room 1

Application: **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 10-006 (Huntington Beach Municipal Solar Project)**

Applicant: City of Huntington Beach
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Contact: Aaron Klemm, Energy Project Manager
Phone: (714) 536-5537

Request: The project involves the installation of photovoltaic panels on new carports and existing rooftops and associated accessory equipment at eight municipal facilities within the City of Huntington Beach. The photovoltaic systems would be composed of solar cells, which are semiconductor devices that convert sunlight into electricity. Typically, a number of individual cells are connected together to form modules, or solar panels. In order to provide electrical insulation and protect against environmental corrosion, the solar cells are encased in a transparent material referred to as an encapsulant. To provide structural integrity the solar cells are mounted on top of a rigid flat surface or substrate. A transparent cover film, commonly glass, further protects these components from the elements.

Rooftop installations would involve the placement of mounting hardware on existing rooftops, with conduit connecting the system to an inverter that would be constructed on the ground nearby.

Parking lot carport canopy installations would include the following components.

• Support Posts – The canopies would be attached to steel posts imbedded in reinforced concrete, with the post-hole approximately two feet in diameter and six to 13 feet deep. The support posts would have a minimum 13 foot clearance for vehicles and would be primarily composed of steel, concrete, and brick materials. Post holes would be drilled and the depth and diameter of post-holes would be determined by soil engineering characteristics.

• Trenches - The trenches that would convey conduit between the system components would be approximately 18 to 24 inches deep and 12 to 36 inches wide. Asphalt removal, backfilling of the trenches and asphalt repair would be necessary.

• Re-Striping – The parking lots would require re-striping in the area of construction after asphalt removal and repair.

• Inverters – Inverters would be located on a concrete pad and would be enclosed in brick or fencing. Inverter enclosures would be a minimum of approximately 1,400 square feet to a maximum of approximately 4,600 square feet

• Landscaping/Trees—Select trees and landscaping would be removed and/or relocated as part of the carport canopy installations and inverter installations. In total, at all eight sites there are 93 trees proposed for removal or relocation and 146 trees proposed for trimming.

• Lighting—Parking lot lighting would be removed when the existing lighting stanchions are in conflict with a proposed carport canopy. Proposed canopy installations would include lighting components under canopies.

• Parking – Parking would be temporarily unavailable in portions of the parking lots of some sites during construction of carport canopies. Larger sites such as City Hall, the Sports Complex and the Central Library would be phased to minimize temporary parking losses. After installation of the carport canopies, the amount of parking spaces would be similar to existing conditions and it is estimated that the number of spaces lost would 4 spaces total for all eight sites.

Location: The project is located at eight municipal facilities within the City of Huntington Beach.

Specific Project Locations

Site Name	**Address**
City Hall and Police Building / Corporate Yard	2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, CA 92647
Central Library	7111 Talbert Avenue Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Sports Complex	18120 Goldenwest Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
City Yard	17371 Gothard Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
City Reservoir	14627 Springdale, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
City Reservoir	6401 Overlook, Huntington Beach, CA 92648
City Water Yard	19001 Huntington Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648
Murdy Community Center	7000 Norma Drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Project Planner: Hayden Beckman, Planning Aide

ON A MOTION BY BROEREN, SECONDED BY VIGLIOTTA, THE EAC APPROVED THE PROCESSING OF A MTIGATED NEGATIVE DELCARATION WITH MODIFICATIONS FOR THE PROJECT.

Ayes: Two (Broeren, Vigliotta)
Noes: None
Absent: One (DeBow)

Under the provisions of the Huntington Beach Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance, the action taken by the Environmental Assessment Committee becomes final at the expiration of the appeal period. A person desiring to appeal the decision shall file a written notice of appeal to the Secretary of the Planning Commission within ten (10) calendar days of the date of the Environmental Assessment Committee's action. The notice of appeal shall include the name and address of the appellant, the decision being appealed, and the grounds for the appeal. A filing fee shall also accompany the notice of appeal. The appeal fee is $494 for all appeals.